

REMARKS

Status of the Claims

After entry of the instant Amendment, claims 1-7, 9-13 and 17 are now pending in the present application. Claims 1, 10, 11 and 12 are independent.

Claims 15, 18 and 19 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Request for Entry of Response After Final Rejection

This response should be entered after final rejection because it places the application in condition for allowance.

In the event that the Examiner disagrees and finds that this response does not place this application into condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to enter this response because it places the application into better condition for appeal.

Interviews

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended to Applicants' representative during the interviews which were conducted on October 20 and December 21, 2010. An Examiner's Interview Summary was made of record on October 26, 2010, for the October Interview. The Interview Summary is an accurate reflection of the substance of the Interview held October 20, 2010. In the October Interview, the Examiner proposed cancelling claims 15, 18 and 19 to place the application in condition for allowance.

Claims 15, 18 and 19 have been cancelled as suggested by the Examiner during the October interview, and it is believed that the application is in condition for allowance. During the December 21 Interview the Examiner asked that Applicants submit an amendment cancelling claims 15, 18 and 19, rather than amending the claims by an Examiner's Amendment.

Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner indicated that claims 1-7, 9-13 and 17 (the only claims remaining after entry of the instant Amendment) are in condition for allowance in the Advisory Action issued October 26, 2010. Thus, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Stephanie A. Wardwell, PhD, Registration No. 48,025 at the telephone number of the undersigned below to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Director is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge any fees required during the pendency of the above-identified application or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448.

Dated: DEC 23 2010

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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